

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT OF OCTOBER 3, 2002

POLYACRYLAMIDE HYDROGEL AS A SOFT TISSUE FILLER

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

For:

Responsive to the Office Action of October 3, 2002, please consider the following remarks. A petition for a four-month extension of time and the requisite fee for it are included.

REMARKS

I. RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ENDOPROSTHESIS

In the Office Action, the Examiner requested restriction to one of the following groups of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-13, drawn to a hydrogel for use as a soft tissue filler, Classified In Class 528, Subclass 310+.
- II. Claims 14-25, drawn to a method of filling soft tissue, Classified In Class 424, Subclass 422.